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DECLASS REVIEW BY NIMA / DoD

NPIC 'R-15/63

REEXAMINATION OF LAUNCH COMPLEX E  
TYURA TAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR

INTRODUCTION

25X1D

This report is based primarily on photography from Mission [redacted] the best KEYHOLE coverage of the Tyura Tam

Missile Test Center to date. It revises NPIC 'R-133 '62, Launch Complex E, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, which was based on fair-

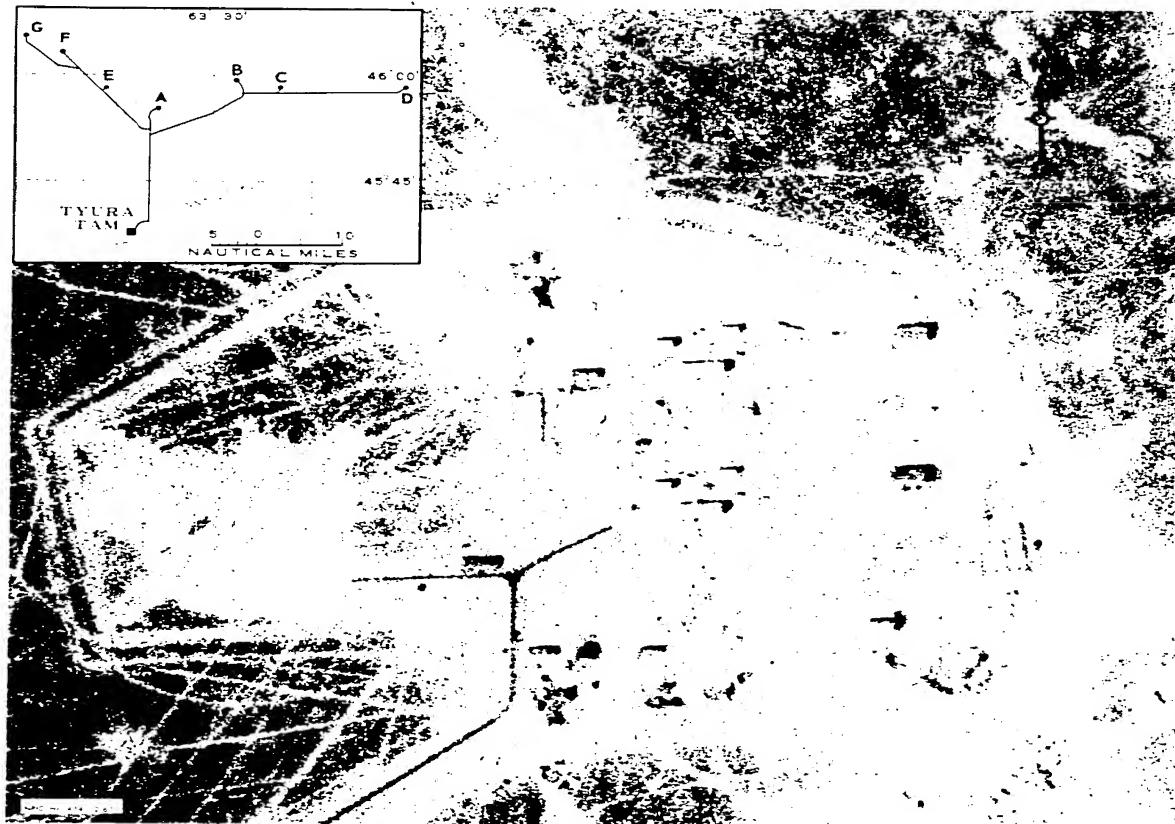


FIGURE 1. LAUNCH COMPLEX E [redacted]

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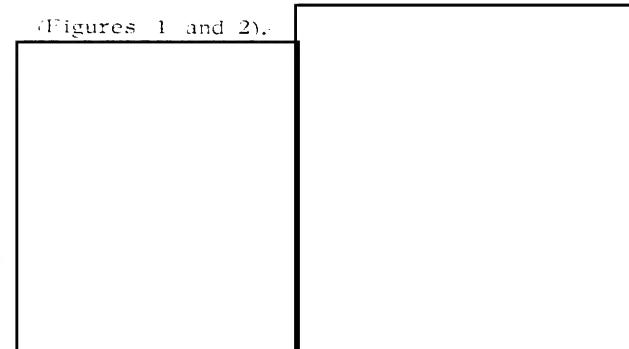
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quality photography of [REDACTED] 1. Mission

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[REDACTED] has resulted in more accurate mensural data than previously available and has negated the probable third launch point indicated by earlier photography to be present at the complex. It does not, however, permit an accurate interpretation of the feature with a possible plus configuration located at the west end of the complex.

(Figures 1 and 2).



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Launch Complex E--located 6.5 nautical miles northwest of Launch Complex A at 45-57N 63-12E--is a confirmed launch area even though no launch pads have been identified

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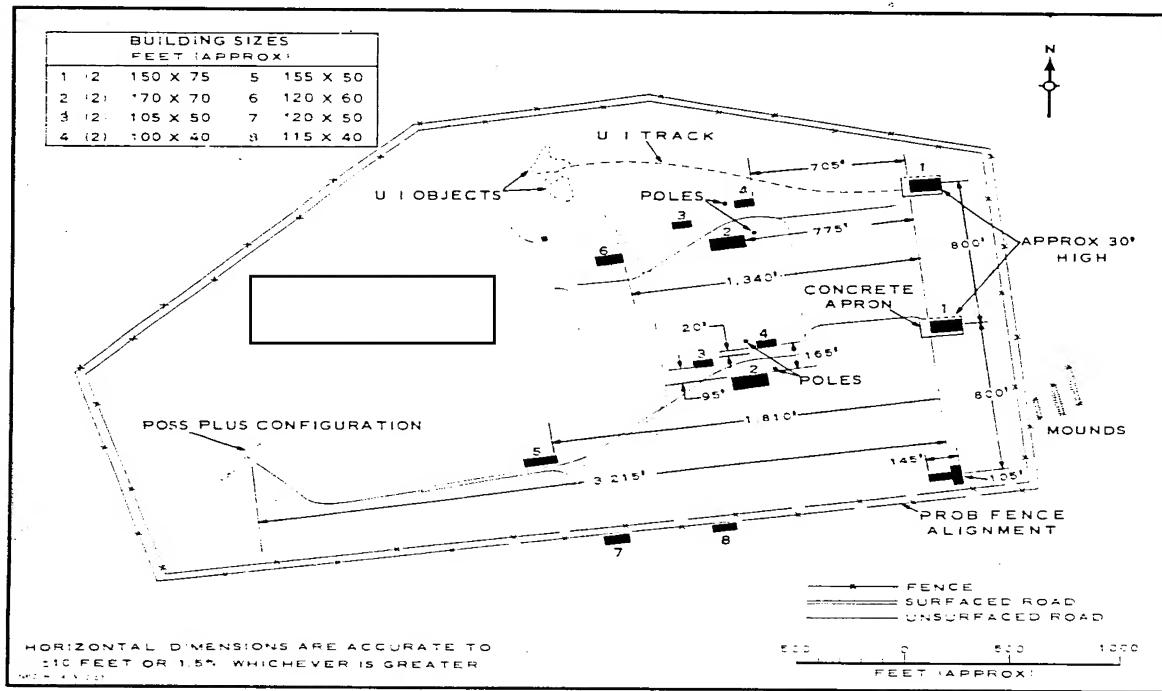


FIGURE 2. LAYOUT OF LAUNCH COMPLEX E.

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**DEVELOPMENT OF COMPLEX**

- 25X1D The complex was first observed in an early stage of construction on photography of [redacted]. At that time, the only activity apparent was general clearing of the area, a road, and possibly some building construction (Figure 3). A search of earlier photography of [redacted] disclosed grading for a road and a survey line running in the general direction of the area which later became Launch Complex E but no activity at the area itself.
- 25X1D The complex was again observed on photography of [redacted] which disclosed considerable activity in the area. The poor quality of this photography precluded an accurate readout of the area. Nevertheless, the extent of the activity noted on this coverage approximated the present size and shape of the complex. In addition, this photography contained indications of the presence of the eight paired buildings, although it did not permit accurate determination of their construction status. Finally, it showed heavy scarring at the location of the feature with a possible plus configuration.
- 25X1D By [redacted] the complex appeared as an irregularly shaped, secured area measuring approximately 4,500 by 2,900 feet and containing about 14 buildings. Two of these buildings, because of the quality of the photography, were identified as launch points E1 and E2. Photography of [redacted] clearly showed these to be buildings. On this later photography, no launch points as such are identifiable, nor can any specific buildings be identified as missile checkout buildings.
- 25X1D Since [redacted] the complex has been observed [redacted] Ex-

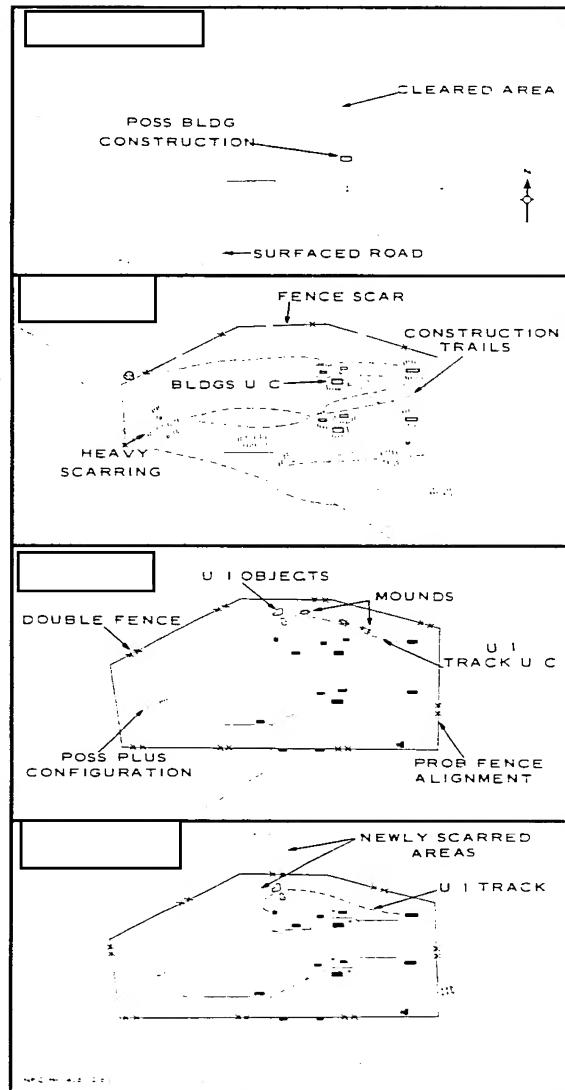


FIGURE 3. DEVELOPMENT OF LAUNCH COMPLEX E.

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cept for an area of unidentified activity on the north side of the complex, no significant additions have been noted during this period. This

lack of activity suggests that all structures were essentially completed by [redacted]

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**CURRENT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY**

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The only discernible change between [redacted] in the one remaining active feature--the area of unidentified activity--was the appearance of additional scarring inside and outside the fence. The area appears to be connected to the large building, 150 by 75 feet, in the northeast corner of the complex by a well-engineered track describing a very flat "S" curve between the two facilities. The exact termini of the track cannot be determined, although one end appears to go to or through two unidentified objects which may be revetments, bunkered buildings, or a revetted build-

ing. A road is evident beyond these unidentified objects. This road makes a turn of nearly 180 degrees and apparently terminates at a very small square building.

Three or four small mounds of earth were present alongside the track on the [redacted] photography. These mounds of earth had been removed by [redacted] photography also showed an increase in the size of the scarred area outside the fence, to the north and inside the fence to the west. Some of this scarring appeared to be the work of a bulldozer.

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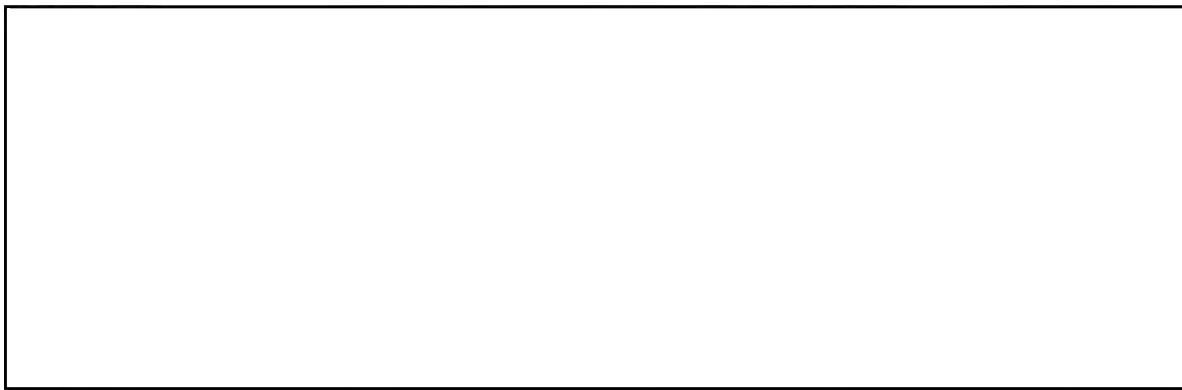
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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

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DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. R-133. 62. Launch Complex E, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, Sep 62. (TOP SECRET CHESS RUFF)

REQUIREMENTS

- CIA. OSI R-239. 62  
CIA. ORR RR-254. 62  
Air. AFIC 62-31

NPIC PROJECT

JN-252. 62